Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Wages also.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The lowest rate is 3 annas. I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know, Sir, what they intend to do to reform the situation?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—If the Government find it necessary, steps will be taken.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What kind of steps, may I know?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Some Regulations have to be passed.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How did the Government get this information?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—From the District Magistrate and some other officers who are supervising the working in the mills. These officers are bound to go and inspect these mills and other places. We got the information from these officers. The Tahsildars are also asked to go to these places and make enquiries.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is the wage of 3 annas for females or males?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Females.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—May I know the number of hours they have to work for getting 3 annas.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is the 3 annas for one whole day?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The question was only with regard to the lowest wage. So, that information we have been able to supply.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—When the officer was asked to collect information was not any information given him for how many hours or what period the wages are meant?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The question was sent to the officers concerned and they were asked to supply the information to furnish the necessary answers.

Extent of land under cultivation.

2. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—With reference to question No. 627 of the last sitting, regarding the organisation of our Agricultural Territory, will the Government be pleased to explain how 1/6 per cent (approx.) increase, indicated by their own figures of acreage under cultivation within a period of 5 long years can justify their statement in section (d) that "The Government are taking all possible steps to increase the extent of land under cultivation"; (2) and also place on the table the information, mentioned in (c)?

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Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—(1) The Government think that they are justified in making the statement for the reasons given in the last portion of the answer to sub-division (d) of question No. 627.

(2) 11,511.73 acres.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What are the reasons, may I know, mentioned in the Government's answer?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—That is given in the answer itself.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Can I know it please, now?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I have not got that question now with me.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is it to be inferred that the Government are not prepared with the documents called for when discussing this proposition?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Necessary records are called for. Since the reasons are given there, Government never thought that the Hon'ble Member will ask for information on that.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If the book is available, will you kindly refer to it.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I will.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In future will you be prepared with such books?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I will do it if it is necessary.

Legislation—Labour conditions.

3. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to question No. 451 regarding legislation regarding labour conditions, will the Government be pleased to state what they were doing all along?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—The prospects of legislation regarding labour conditions in the State can be ascertained only after the Economic and Industrial Survey.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—My question was what the Government have been doing in such an important matter. I have not got the answer for it.

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—It can be ascertained only after the Economic and Industrial Survey is completed. Without facts it is not possible to draw any inference which will be satisfactory.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Do the Government intend to continue this system of 12 hours work till they get the report on the Economic and Industrial Survey?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is this question included in the terms of reference dictated to the Economic Survey Officer?

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